

APPENDICE

No. II.

RAPPORT

DE

MONSIEUR L'OFFICIER DE LA
SANTÉ PUBLIQUE, 1934.

IX. —1935.

RAPPORT DE MONSIEUR L'OFFICIER DE LA SANTÉ PUBLIQUE, 1934.

States Office, Guernsey, July 26th, 1935.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1934, with the request that it may be printed as an Appendix to a Billet d'Etat, and that a number of copies (say 100), be struck off for distribution in the usual way.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR DOREY,
President, Board of Health.

V. G. Carey, Esq.,
Bailiff, President of the States of Guernsey,
Royal Court.

GUERNSEY.

Guernsey, the most western of the Channel Islands, lies in the Bay of Avranches, 82 miles from Weymouth, the nearest English port, 40 from Cherbourg, and 63 from St. Malo.

It is triangular in shape, with an area of 24.5 square miles and an acreage of 15,654. The soil, composed of disintegrated granite and schist, is very fertile. Enormous quantities of tomatoes, grapes and other fruit, vegetables and flowers are grown, chiefly under glass, for export.

This industry is the chief one, but in addition, large quantities of granite for road-making are exported. The rearing, for sale in England and the United States, of the far-famed Guernsey cattle (including those from Alderney and Sark) is an important industry. These cattle are highly prized, not only for the richness of their milk, but above all for their freedom from Tuberculosis.

There are two harbours, situated at St. Peter-Port and St. Sampson's, the two towns of the island.

The population at the census of 1911 was 41,854; in 1921 it was stated to be 37,914 with 1,098 visitors, and the provisional figures for 1931 shew a population of 40,470.

Guernsey is a health resort throughout the year, but particularly so in the summer and autumn months. Not only are its natural beauties so great, but its salubrious yet bracing climate is highly attractive. It is cooler in summer and warmer in winter than on the mainland.

Drainage is good and modern in the towns. The water supply, now the property of the Government of the island, is of exceptional purity and derived from deep wells, but additional sources of supply from streams have lately been obtained.

Guernsey enjoys Home Rule. With Alderney and Sark it forms a Bailiwick and is governed by a Lieutenant-Governor. The Bailiff is the chief Civil Official.

Houses—Inhabited (1931 Census)	9,781
Number of families accommodated in States Houses since 1921	269
Density of Population, per acre	2.6
„ „ per square mile	1,665
Average number of inhabitants per house	4.02
Birth rate per 1,000	18.3
Death Rate per 1,000 (crude)	12.9
„ „ (standardized)	9.0
Infantile Death Rate	50.6
Rainfall average 91 years	36.90
„ 1934	38.51
Mean Relative Humidity	84.0
Mean Average Temperature	51.9
Mean Daily Range	8.6
Average hours of sunshine over 40 years	1,824.1
Sunshine 1934	1,897.8
Guernsey holds the record for sunshine for the British Isles.	

EXPORTS.

	1934
Tomatoes	27,000 tons.
Flowers	4,728 „
Grapes (in cases and baskets)	908 „
Vegetables (including potatoes)	2,141 „
Granite	96,423 „

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATES

Medical Officer of Health, Guernsey

For the year 1934,

and for the First Quarter of the Year 1935.

Table I.

YEAR.	Estimated population to middle of each year.	BIRTHS per 1,000.		DEATHS per 1,000.			DEATHS under 1 year of Age.	
		Number	Rate.	Number	Crude Rate.	Standard- ised Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births
1924.....	38,400	753	19·8	466	12·1	9·6	40	53·1
1925.....	38,580	758	19·9	522	13·5	10·7	56	74·0
1926.....	38,650	787	20·3	549	14·2	11·2	81	02·9
1927.....	38,880	760	19·6	532	13·7	10·9	57	75·0
1928.....	39,000	813	20·8	485	12·4	9·9	48	59·0
1929.....	39,040	756	19·4	586	15·1	12·0	59	78·0
1930.....	40,215	757	18·8	486	12·1	9·6	50	66·0
1931.....	40,470	764	18·8	475	11·7	9·3	29	38·0
1932	40,640	762	18·7	470	11·5	9·1	47	62·0
1933.....	40,850	712	17·4	578	14·1	11·2	56	78·6
Averages for ten years, 1924-1933.	39,472	762	19·3	514	13·0	10·3	52	68·6
1934.....	40,900	751	18·3	528	12·9	9·0	38	50·6

Table II.
VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE YEARS 1901-1905 AND ALSO
FOR THE YEAR 1934.

1901-1905.

GUERNSEY.			ENGLAND AND WALES.		
Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Death Rate.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Death Rate.
27.3	16.0	141.4	28.6	16.1	138

1934.

18.3	12.9	50.6	14.8	11.8	59
—	9.0	Standardised.			

POPULATION.

The population at the middle of the year was estimated to be 40,900, of which 19,685 might be males, and 21,215 females. I believe this to be a low estimate. The chief feature of our population is the very large number of elderly and old people that we have here, which number is constantly increasing. In 1931 there were in the Bailiwick 5,935 persons over the age of 60 years, an increase of 1,863 since 1901, and 739 since the Census of 1921. Our death rate is therefore certain to increase in the future in spite of the very marked decline in the number of deaths at the earlier periods of life shewn in Table III. In order that this rate may be seen in correct perspective as compared with that of England and Wales, a standardising figure is supplied by the Registrar-General. Last year's figure is one which multiplies our death rate by 0.696, thus converting our crude death rate of 12.4 into a standardised one of 9.0. With such a population a high birth rate is obviously very desirable, and at present our birth rate is 3.5 per 1,000 above that of England and Wales, the equivalent of about 140 extra births per year.

BIRTHS.

There were 751 births—Males 393 and Females 358, a rate of 18.3 per 1,000; the average for the ten previous years was 19.3. Our birth rate has only fallen approximately about one-third in the last 30 years, whereas in England and Wales the fall has been almost 50 per cent. There were only 18 still births, a comparatively small number, and a percentage to the total live births of 2.4. Illegitimate births numbered 41, of which 28 or 68 per cent. were in the Town Parish. The rate per 1,000 live births was 5.4. During the previous 10 years the averages were in both instances 4.2.

DEATHS.

There were 528 deaths—270 Males and 258 Females, a crude death rate of 12.9 and a standardised one of 9.0. The crude rate is much the same as that of the previous ten years; the standardised one is rendered more favourable by the new figure already mentioned. The number of deaths during the four quarters of the year were, respectively, 155, 133, 117, 133. No deaths occurred from Influenza or any other infectious disease, notifiable or non-notifiable, with the exception of Tuberculosis. There were 88 deaths of persons in the receipt of Old Age Pensions: 43 female and 45 male—with an average age at death of 79.2 and 78 years respectively, and 97 deaths of persons over the age of 80 years—a percentage to the total of 18.4.

Deaths in Public Institutions were :—

Town Hospital	66
Country Hospital	48
Town Mental Hospital	2
Country Mental Hospital	2
Victoria Hospital	16
King Edward Sanatorium	3

The following table is of particular interest :—

Table III.

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGE PERIODS.

	Under 1 year.	Years 1-5.	Years 5-15.	Years 15-25.	Under 25 years.	Years 25-65.	Over 65 years
1900-1904.....	24.0	9.0	4.0	5.0	42.0	27.0	31.0
1905-1909.....	22.3	8.0	3.0	4.6	38.0	28.0	34.0
1910-1914.....	20.2	7.2	3.3	3.8	34.5	27.8	37.7
1915-1919	12.5	5.1	3.6	4.9	26.2	33.1	40.7
1920-1924.....	11.5	3.6	3.7	5.5	24.4	30.4	45.3
1925-1929.....	11.2	3.4	2.5	4.0	21.2	30.2	48.6
1930-1934.....	8.6	2.9	1.7	3.2	16.4	30.5	53.1
1934.....	7.2	1.3	1.0	2.8	12.3	35.0	52.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were two deaths of mothers—both from eclampsia—and 751 live births in 1934, so that the maternal mortality was 2.66 per 1,000.

During the 35 years, 1900-1934, there were 29,858 births with 71 deaths in Guernsey, giving a rate of 2.38.

The average for England and Wales is about 4.5, and 40 per cent. above that of the Netherlands, a country with which a fair comparison may be made. The figure for 1934 is, however, 15 per cent. above that of 20 years ago. Guernsey's record is, therefore, in comparison a satisfactory one, in spite of local disabilities.

The Midwife's Act has not yet been considered by the Royal Court, but no doubt it will be during 1935.

The Medical Officer of Health has, unfortunately, no power in Guernsey to order milk or any other food for ill-nourished and necessitous mothers during the periods of pregnancy and lactation. It would be a very valuable measure if he could be granted a discretionary power in the matter. No doubt arrangements could be made with the retailers who now supply the primary schools with milk, to also supply it at the same reduced rate, for this purpose.

CANCER.

There were 72 deaths, a rate of 1.76 per 1,000, and 13.6 per cent. of the total deaths. In the 10 years, 1906 to 1915, the average number was 48. Between 1925 and 1929 it was 56, and between 1930 and 1934—68. As cancer is chiefly a disease of aged tissues, and those which have often become functionally inactive, the age incidence of our population must account in some measure for this very high figure. In England and Wales the rate was 1.56. In Jersey 1.81.

A supply of very useful and informative leaflets relating to cancer, written in carefully chosen language and issued by Guy's Hospital, was purchased during the year, and efforts were made by advertisements in local papers and other means to circulate them in an advantageous manner, but the result was a disappointing one.

If people will not even consider this important matter, but regard it as a tabooed thing, it seems rather hopeless to expect that cancer will often be diagnosed except in the advanced stage.

In previous reports, notably those for 1928 and 1930, I have dealt more fully with this distressing problem. A quotation from one of them may be given:—

“In Guernsey I would advocate the formation of a strong and influential body—a Cancer Care Committee—to undertake publicity work, and render assistance, pecuniary and otherwise, to persons suffering from it, who are not able to secure adequate treatment for themselves. This would in certain cases involve the sending of patients to England for treatment. There are a number of able medical men who are living in Guernsey, but not in practice, who would, I am sure, be able to render valuable service in this matter.”

This would tend to help the early and possibly curable cases, and to diminish the number of the advanced and hopeless ones.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under 1 year was 38, a rate of 50.6 per 1,000. For the past 5 years the district rates have been St. Peter-Port 55, St. Sampson's and Vale both 59, and the other seven parishes 64.

During the 5 years 1901-1905 the rate was 141.4, but in 1911 “the death rate was exceedingly high—208, and in England would only be equalled by a few large towns in manufacturing districts with an unenviable notoriety in this respect”. (1911 report). In contrast I may quote the figure for 1931, which was 38.0; the lowest recorded here.

Of the 38 deaths, 22 took place before the age of one month was reached, 58 per cent. of the total.

In Guernsey we have relied entirely upon voluntary work as regards maternity and child welfare in the past, and my records shew what a deep debt of gratitude our community owes to these devoted and untiring workers who for so many years, and with but little to encourage them, have achieved so much. I would not suggest supplanting them in any way, that would not only be base ingratitude but sheer folly, but I should like to supplement their work by official help and recognition, so that the scope of it might be thus enlarged and increased in efficiency.

1934.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.				Under 1 month.	Between Months				Ttl.
	1-2	2-3	3-4			1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
No. 7. Heart Disease.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
No. 8. Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3
Broncho-Pneumonia	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	5
No. 9. Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
No. 14. Malformation of Heart ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malformation of Colon ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
No. 15. Premature Birth	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Injury at Birth	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Marasmus	1	1	3	—	—	3	—	1	—	9
Icterus Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	14	3	5	—	22	4	6	5	1	38

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages was 329, a rate of 16.0 per 1,000 of the population. Of these 163 took place in Church of England, 27 in Roman Catholic, and 58 in Non-conformist Churches. There were 81 at the Greffe Office.

In the 10 years, 1905-1914, the average number was 286; between 1915 and 1918—264, and between 1924 and 1933—317.

In Alderney there were seven marriages, and in Sark none during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE PAST 35 YEARS.

In the first five years of this century there were the following number of deaths from various infectious diseases: Epidemic Enteritis 94, Diphtheria 45, and Whooping Cough 72. Measles was not then prevalent, nor was Scarlet Fever.

In subsequent years, e.g. 1911, there were 64 deaths from Epidemic Enteritis, 6

from Scarlet Fever, 21 from Whooping Cough, and 50 from Measles. It was indeed a calamitous year with deficiency of rainfall, high atmospheric and soil temperatures. In 1912 there were 21 deaths from Diphtheria.

During the five years, 1930-1934, there were no deaths from Epidemic Enteritis, one each from Measles and Scarlet Fever, two from Diphtheria, and 19 from Whooping Cough; Enteric or Paratyphoid fever have not been answerable at any time for more than a small number of deaths.

Apart from the great influenza epidemics of 1918 and 1919, when 93 and 40 deaths were registered, there has been no very marked incidence of the disease.

1934.

The following cases were admitted to the King Edward Sanatorium during the year : Scarlet Fever 9, Diphtheria 4, Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers 16, Tuberculosis 16, Cancer 1, Varicella 5, Rotheln 1, Puerperal fever 1, Meningitis 1. Up to the end of the year 92 children from the Primary Schools, who were suffering from general debility or similar conditions, were admitted for periods of three weeks. The results as regards gain in weight and general improvement of their condition, were most satisfactory. The total admitted was therefore 146.

In addition to the above, one case of Scarlet Fever was isolated at home, and three of Ophthalmia Neonatorum at the Town Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the last few years Diphtheria has been conspicuous by its absence, yet during the past 35 years we have had at times very severe epidemics, and it has been excessively prevalent. To go back even 10 or 15 years, we find that during the 5 years 1921-5, there were 967 cases notified. This very heavy incidence must have had an immunising effect upon the school children who are the chief of its sufferers; hence the present small figures. In England, on the other hand, the disease of late years has been on the increase generally, of a very severe type and with a high mortality.

Immunization against it has not been undertaken on a large scale here, and in special cases where it has been offered it has been refused. The technique of it has recently been simplified by the administration of alum toxoid in one dose. The newly-appointed school medical officer will no doubt give attention to this matter, although the injection of children before they obtain school age is the best procedure.

SCARLET FEVER.

Of the nine cases, four were due to the return of a lad from a London Hospital who contracted it there, and infected his brother and two children here.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There were three cases during the year, all treated in the Town Hospital by a specialist. All made a complete recovery, in great measure due to the care and constant attention given them by the nursing staff.

TYPHOID AND PARA-TYPHOID FEVERS.

There were 14 cases notified in less than a month during February and March. Five of these were of severe type, and clinically typhoid. There were 3 in St. Peter-Port, 1 in St. Sampson's, 2 in the Vale, 6 in the Castel, and 2 in St. Saviour's. In some of them there was considerable delay in their recognition, which made it impossible to trace the sources of infection. A stream known to be polluted appeared to be the cause of three cases, but of the others it was impossible to make any definite statement. All but one were treated at the Sanatorium and there were no deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the five years, 1900-1904, there was an average of 83 deaths from this cause a year, 59 from Phthisis and 24 from other forms of tuberculosis. Between 1930 and 1934 the average was 32.8—Phthisis 30, other tubercular 2.8.

During the first period Bovine Tuberculosis was rife in the island. In the latter period it had been stamped out—a great achievement—and the figures quoted shew as cause and effect the remarkable drop in “other tubercular” due to the absence of infection through milk.

The total rates per 1,000 of the two periods were 2.06 and 0.8 respectively.

In 1934 there were 34 deaths from Phthisis and 2 from other tubercular—Rates 0.83 and 0.05—Total 0.835.

There were 28 notifications, an unusually large number for Guernsey, but several were notified very late in the disease, some even after death had occurred.

Of the 16 patients admitted to the Sanatorium, three have died, and only four have shewn a marked improvement.

The need for more accommodation for patients in both early and advanced stages has often been stressed in these reports, and in February, when the question of building a new mental hospital was before the States, a strongly-worded manifesto was issued by the local branch of the British Medical Association endorsing this need, and pointing out that in any two years there would be as many deaths from tuberculosis as there were patients living in the mental hospitals.

A clinic for patients suffering from tuberculosis is very greatly needed here, and one could be started at once. It is really the foundation of the whole work, and the recent manifesto has removed some of the difficulties which have hitherto prevented such action being taken thus to get in touch with patients at an early stage of the disease.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

I find in 1903 my first reference to this question in my annual reports:—

“There can be no doubt that serious overcrowding exists in parts of the Island. . . .

It is very difficult for a working man with a family to secure adequate accommodation, or indeed any accommodation at all, at a rental within his means, the demand for houses being so great. Most landlords prefer people without children or those with small families as their tenants. . . .

The number of persons thus herded together is often so great that health, cleanliness and morality cannot but suffer under these conditions."

(1903).

"I must again allude to the question of suitable dwellings for the working classes. By no efforts of their own are they able to secure them."

(1908).

"The need for new houses in Guernsey is acute, and it is the duty of the States to provide them with the least possible delay."

(1919).

"There has been no Rent Restriction Act passed locally which was greatly needed."

(1921).

"Guernsey has its slum problem and although its favourable climate may help to minimise the evil effects of slum dwellings, it cannot do more than that. Children are especially affected by them, as the greater part of their lives are passed in these wretched homes where decency and health seem almost impossible.

The tragedy and misery of such an existence need no elaboration, even the least imaginative of us must realise it. . . .

In spite of the good work which States Committees carry out in the re-conditioning of houses, and the granting of loans for their erection, local slums have not been abolished. Private enterprise cannot be relied upon in these days to build the necessary houses, as such houses will not be a paying proposition. If ordinary remunerative rents be charged a proportion of these rents must be paid by the Public Assistance Committee in many instances; the payment of rent may absorb such a large proportion of the family income that there is not enough money left for sufficient food, which is so absolutely necessary. An under-nourished body cannot function properly or resist disease."

(1932).

The States Committee have provided accommodation for 267 families to date, the last houses which they erected being those at Pont Vaillant in 1929. Early in 1934 the urgency of the situation stimulated them to take further action, they advertised for building sites, a site at Summerfield Road, Vale, was purchased, and a sum of £15,000 voted for the erection of 28 houses upon it.

This hardly touches the slum question. People inhabiting the slums are obviously the least desirable class of tenants, many, however, through no fault of their own. In the place of these slums new dwellings must be built, and the old ones demolished. If this be not done, after a time they are often patched up and people drift back to them again, driven to do so both by financial reasons and the shortage of dwellings.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

In my report for 1905, I advocated the appointment of a school medical officer at some length, and pointed out that in the United States of America the medical inspection of school children had been brought to a higher degree of efficiency than

in any other country. It was not until early in 1935 that Dr. W. R. McGlashan, the specialist in mental diseases, was appointed as the first school medical officer.

My only official duty with regard to these schools is to visit them when it is necessary to trace or search for cases of infectious diseases, but I have always carried out a certain amount of general inspection.

Last year I examined 619 children—a smaller number than usual; the previous year the number was 816.

The value of this voluntary and unpaid work has been freely admitted by the Education Council on several occasions, and the Council has always been assiduous in securing efficient treatment for all cases requiring it, which I have brought to their notice.

I must confess that I never thought 30 years ago that a school attendance of 92.07 per cent., the figure for 1934, would be reached in my lifetime, or that amongst the 6,600 children between the ages of 5 and 15 years, there would be only five deaths, as there were last year. Of these one was from an accident and none were from any infectious diseases.

Important as is school medical inspection, medical supervision and care of children of pre-school age is still more important. These children of tender age suffer from the disastrous after-effects of measles, whooping cough and the common respiratory diseases. Often when they are old enough to attend school the foundations of ill-health and chronic disabilities have already been laid and cannot be remedied.

LABORATORY.

The number of specimens of various sorts examined was 230, a number considerably smaller than in most years. They were chiefly sent for the diagnosis of tuberculosis. Very few throat cultures or swabs were examined, as there were only a small number of suspicious throat cases at any time during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

From 1902 this question has been constantly referred to in my annual reports. At present it is dealt with Parochially, St. Peter-Port, St. Sampson's and St. Martin's making arrangements for collection and disposal of household refuse, but not necessarily trade refuse, in a manner which might be greatly improved.

In this small island certain areas should be defined as requiring such a service, and this work should be carried out by the States and not the Parishes, in the same manner as the States employ their vacuum cesspool emptying vans wherever they are required. The provision of suitable covered iron bins, motor carts of modern type, adequate supervision and frequency of collection should be insisted upon. I am quite sure from the number of people who have discussed this matter with me, that the public concerned are anxiously waiting for such a solution of it, and would willingly pay for satisfactory service.

The destruction of refuse has always been carried out by the Guernsey Railway

Company in a very satisfactory manner and without complaints. I only hope that at an early date the collection will be equally efficiently carried out by the States.

In many country districts, indeed often close to some of our most beautiful bays, heaps of putrefying refuse are dumped close to roads and houses. The cleaning up of such spots is the responsibility of the Constables, and such refuse should be either buried or burnt as they may order. Not only are such accumulations a danger to health in themselves, but they form a harbourage for rats.

CREMATION.

There were 15 bodies cremated during the year, of which six were brought from Jersey.

THALASSOL.

The number of gallons manufactured was 16,730 and the cost per gallon 2.26 pence.

The plant has now over 20 years of service, and is working very efficiently.

WATER SUPPLY.

In spite of the dry weather the States Water Board was able to maintain a constant supply of water of good quality, not only for domestic, but for trade purposes in Guernsey mainly for greenhouses. The mains now extend to the extreme west of the island beyond Rocquaine Bay, a district where such a supply was badly needed. At the north end there has been a like extension of mains and in districts similar in their flat character to the west but more thickly populated and with more greenhouses.

PUBLIC BATHS AND CONVENIENCES.

A proposal to erect some public baths in the neighbourhood of the South Esplanade, which was brought forward by the Board of Administration, was unfortunately postponed, a like fate befalling the proposal to construct public conveniences at some of our most frequented bays. The latter is admittedly a difficult question, but may as well be faced now as at some future time. The need of public baths is as urgent as any question now under consideration, with the exception of that of housing. The greenhouse worker, the docker, the coal porter, let alone the children and the families who are living in insanitary conditions, with no proper facilities for the preservation of bodily cleanliness, are simply crying out for them.

Again and again I am asked by people of all sorts if I cannot do anything to help them in this matter, and it is distressing to find that the situation is still the same now as it was when I first strongly advocated the provision of them in my 1903 report.

MENTAL HOSPITAL.

During the year the plans for the erection of a modern and adequate hospital for the treatment of persons suffering from mental diseases were approved by the States, a

fine site for the purpose having been also secured. For more than thirty years this matter has been under consideration, and its settlement has caused a feeling of universal satisfaction, in view of the thoroughly bad conditions existing in the present institutions. Such a sweeping statement must not be taken as any reflection upon the staffs of the two existing institutions. On the contrary, they have shewn such kindness, efficiency, and devotion to the unfortunate people committed to their care, that I take this, the last opportunity that I shall have of officially doing so, of making this statement about their work.

DRAINAGE.

During the year new drains were laid in several sections of St. Peter-Port and St. Martin's. I regret that the L'Ancrese district is still without this very necessary service.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The treatment of venereal diseases has again been under consideration during the year. It is a matter of special difficulty here, but I hope that a satisfactory arrangement will shortly be made between the Board of Health and the local medical men, through the agency of the British Medical Association. It will not be possible to undertake the Wasserman reaction in Guernsey, as there is no sheep's blood available.

MILK STANDARD.

I much regret to state that no advance has been made towards the fixing of a standard for Guernsey milk. It is at present impossible for this reason to institute proceedings for the adulteration of milk, a situation that should be altered without any further delay.

MILK FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

An arrangement has been made for the supply of a milk ration of one-third of a pint for children attending the elementary schools.

I have pointed out to the Education Council that the Board of Education in England insist that wherever it is possible, pasteurised milk must be supplied to school children, and that the use of milk which has not been so treated may be the cause of epidemics of milk borne infectious diseases, involving very large numbers of children who have taken milk from an infected source.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS.

As a result of a requête presented to the States asking that sustained and special efforts should be made in Guernsey to destroy rats and mice, a Committee was formed to study the question and to present a report to the States in due course.

BREAD : NIGHT BAKING.

“ The making of bread during the night is now prohibited in many countries. I know of no reason why it should be permitted in England and Guernsey, and I trust it will not be for much longer. Not only is bread likely to be made under unsatisfactory and uncleanly conditions at night by artificial light, but it is inhumane and uneconomic to make men continually work at night instead of by day as Nature intended, unless such work be absolutely necessary.”

(Annual Report 1924.)

SHOP HOURS ACT.

“ A requête asking that a Committee be appointed to study this Act, and the seats for Shop Assistants Act, 1899, was not entertained by the States.”

(Annual Report 1924.)

During the year, as a result of a communication from a philanthropic lady, a letter was sent to the Chamber of Commerce asking it to make investigations as to the provision of seats for female assistants in shops, and report to the Board. The reply was to the effect that in the majority of shops seats were provided, but not in all as they should be. As many of the assistants are adolescents whose health must suffer from the long hours of indoor work, which, if not the rule are the exception, the suggested Committee might with advantage be appointed now.

During the year a comprehensive and skilfully drawn up scheme for contributory pensions for old age, widows and orphans, was passed by the States, but did not come into force during the period under review. It also absorbed in the one scheme that for Accident Insurance already in force, and which not only covers periods of employment, but the whole 24 hours. There is no inspection of machinery here to provide for the elimination of dangers to the workers, as there is in England under the Factory Acts. This is a serious omission. Surely it is better and more economical and humane to prevent the occurrence of accidents than to compensate the unfortunate sufferers from them.

The new sanitary law and that relating to midwives have not yet reached more than the preliminary stages, and are unlikely to be in force in 1935.

Although we have more or less abolished the word “ asylum ” we still speak of the Poor Law system. Why should not the words “ Poor Law Board ” be replaced by “ Public Assistance Committee ” and the present hospitals be known as “ St. Peter’s ” and “ St. Mary’s ” hospitals, thus following the example of England in these matters.

Many people are now admitted to these hospitals who pay for their treatment, and the present title of them is therefore an undesirable one.

Perhaps a short retrospect of the origin of the Board of Health in Guernsey may be of interest. A survey of the Billets of 1898 and 1899 shews that a Committee of Enquiry was appointed to examine into the excessive incidence and mortality of infectious diseases in Guernsey. It was stated that before the year 1895 such diseases had been seldom seen for many years, and that since that date the conditions already mentioned had been very prevalent. In one year the mortality from diphtheria had been 45 per cent.

The Committee submitted two exhaustive reports to the States, and recommended the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health, the erection of an isolation hospital and the establishment of a bacteriological laboratory. The Douzaines and Constables were still to be the parochial sanitary authorities with executive powers, and to this day they are still the only authorities. Although an Order in Council has recently granted similar powers to the Board of Health, the Ordinance in connection therewith has not yet come into force.

Such sanitary system as we now have, has been built up in the face of intense opposition in the earlier days, especially and with the exception of about eight months at the beginning of the Board's activities. I have been since then working for the Board of Health.

A reference to Tables II. and III. will shew the striking fact that in spite of our shortcomings our vital statistics shew in the past 34 years an improvement as great as those of England and Wales, yet the amount spent in Guernsey in social services is in proportion very small to that expended in England and Wales.

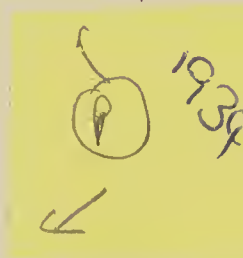
We have reached the stage where a strong local Ministry of Health is really essential, to absorb the responsibilities of the fourteen authorities who now deal with matters concerning the public health.

New houses are being built in large numbers, more urban areas are being created, and our already dense population is increasing.

It is clearly impossible for one medical officer and one sanitary inspector to supervise efficiently and deal to-day with all questions relating to the public health. This meagre staff will have to be augmented considerably in the near future, if Guernsey is to continue making such progress as has been effected in the last 35 years.

HENRY DRAPER BISHOP,
States' Medical Officer of Health.

9th July, 1935.



CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, OF DEATHS REGISTERED
DURING 1934.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-5.	5-15.	Between 15-25.	25 to 65.	Over 65.	Total
No. 1. <i>Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases—</i>								
Phthisis	—	..	—	..	—	..	9 .. 25 .. —	34
Tubercular Meningitis ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1 .. — .. —	1
Tuberculosis of Joints ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Septicæmia	—	..	—	..	—	..	1 .. 4 .. —	5
No 2. <i>General Diseases not Included in No. 1—</i>								
Cancer	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 34 .. 38	72
No 3. <i>Diseases of Nutrition and other General Diseases—</i>								
Diabetes	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 3 .. 4	7
Rheumatic Fever	—	..	—	..	—	..	1 .. — .. —	2
Osteo Arthritis	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Rheumatoid Arthritis ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Acromegaly	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Myxœdema.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 1 .. —	1
No. 4. <i>Diseases of the Blood and Blood Forming Organs—</i>								
Pernicious Anœmia	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 2 .. 3	5
No. 5. <i>Chronic Poisoning—</i>								
Alcoholism (Chronic) ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 2 .. —	2
No. 6. <i>Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs—</i>								
Neuritis	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Paralysis	—	..	—	..	—	..	1 .. — .. —	1
Meningitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	1 .. 3 .. —	4
Convulsions	—	..	—	..	1 ..	—	.. — .. —	1
Epilepsy	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 2 .. 1	3
Cerebral Degeneration ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 1 .. —	1
Disseminated Sclerosis ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 1 .. 1	2
Apoplexy	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. 11 .. 28	39
Myelitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	— .. — .. 1	1
Carried forward.....	—	..	—	..	1 ..	2 ..	12 .. 90 .. 81	186

Brought forward ..	—	..	—	..	1	..	2	..	12	..	90	..	81	186
No. 7. Diseases of the Circulatory System—														
Aneurysm	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	1	2
Angina Pectoris.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	5	..	4	9
Embolism	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	1
Hyperpiesis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
Gangrene	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
Arterio Sclerosis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	6	..	10	16
Heart Disease.....	1	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	..	26	..	56	84
No. 8. Diseases of the Respiratory System—														
Pleurisy	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	..	1	..	1	3
Asthma	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	1	2
Acute Bronchitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	2
Chronic Bronchitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	14	15
Pneumonia	3	..	—	..	2	..	—	..	—	..	12	..	4	21
Broncho-Pneumonia ..	5	..	1	..	1	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	5	14
Oedema of Lung	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
No. 9. Diseases of the Digestive System—														
Appendicitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	1	3
Intestinal Obstruction ..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	..	2	3
Volvulus	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
Quinsy	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	4	6
Gastro-Enteritis	2	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	1	4
Enteritis	3	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	3
Colitis	—	..	—	..	..	—	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	2
No. 10. Non-Venereal Diseases of the Genito Urinary System and Annexa—														
Chronic Nephritis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	6	..	7	13
Acute do.	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
Cystitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	3	5
Pyelitis	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	1
Renal Calculus	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	1
Carried forward	14	..	1	..	4	..	4	..	13	..	165	..	202	403

Brought forward.	14	..	1	..	4	..	4	..	13	..	165	..	202	403
No 11. <i>Diseases of Pregnancy</i> —														
Eclampsia.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	—	2
No. 12. <i>Diseases of the Skin</i> —														
Carbuncle	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	1
No 14. <i>Congenital Mal-</i> <i>formation</i> —														
Malformation of Heart..	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	1
Malformation of Colon ..	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	1
No 15. <i>Diseases of Early</i> <i>Infancy</i> —														
Premature Birth	10	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	10
Injury at Birth	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	1
Atelectasis	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	1
Marasmus	8	..	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	9
Icterus Neonatorum	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	1
No 16. <i>Old Age</i> —														
Senile Decay.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	69	69
Senile Dementia	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	2
No 17. <i>Deaths from Violence</i> —														
Drowning	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	4	..	—	4
Burns	—	..	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	1	3
Fall.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	2	..	1	..	1	4
Suicide.....	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	5	..	1	6
Motor Accident	—	..	—	..	—	..	1	..	—	..	3	..	1	5
No 18. <i>Ill-Defined</i> —														
Syncope	1	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	—	..	4	..	—	5

Total 38 .. 3 .. 4 .. 5 .. 15 .. 185 .. 278 528

RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTERED DURING 1934.
BIRTHS.

PARISH LETTER :	st. P.-Port. <i>A</i>	St. Sampson <i>B</i>	Vale. <i>C</i>	Castel. <i>D</i>	St. Saviour. <i>E</i>	St. Pierre-du-Bois. <i>F</i>	Torteval. <i>G</i>	Forest. <i>H</i>	St. Martin. <i>I</i>	St. Andrew. <i>K</i>	Total
Males	171	..52	.. 37..	37..	17	..15	.. 4	.. 8	..38	.. 14..	393
Females	172	..39	.. 39..	27..	13	..16	.. 4	.. 9	..35	.. 4..	358
Totals	343	..91	.. 76..	64..	30	..31	.. 8	..17	..73	.. 18..	751
Deaths under 1 year	16	.. 5	.. 4..	3..	2	.. -	.. 1	.. -	.. 7	.. -	(^{M.21} _{F.17})38
Still Births { Male	5	.. 1	.. -..	2..	-	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. 1	.. -..	10
{ Female	3	.. -	.. -..	2..	1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. 1..	8
Total	8	.. 1	.. -..	4..	1	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. 2	.. 1..	18
Illegitimate	28	.. 1	.. 1	.. 6	.. 2	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. 2	.. -..	41

DEATHS.

PARISH LETTER :	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>K</i>	Total
No. 1. <i>Epidemic, Endemic and Infectious Diseases.</i>											
Phthisis	10	.. 6	.. 4	.. 1	.. 1	.. 2	.. 1	.. 2	.. 5	.. 2	34
Tubercular Meningitis	-	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Tuberculosis of Joints	1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Septicæmia	4	.. 1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	5
No. 2. <i>General Diseases not included in No. 1.</i>											
Cancer	38	.. 7	.. 7	.. 6	.. 2	.. 2	.. -	.. -	.. 7	.. 3	72
No. 3. <i>Diseases of Nutrition and other General Diseases.</i>											
Diabetes	3	.. 1	.. 2	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. -	7
Rheumatic Fever	1	.. 1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	2
Osteo Arthritis	-	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Rheumatoid Arthritis	1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Acromegaly	1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Myxœdema	-	.. -	.. -	.. 1	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	.. -	1
Carried forward	59	..16	..13	.. 9	.. 3	.. 5	.. 1	.. 2	..13	.. 5	126

Brought forward	59	..	16	..	13	..	9	..	3	..	5	..	1	..	2	..	13	..	5	..	126
No. 4. <i>Diseases of the Blood and Blood-forming Organs.</i>																					
Pernicious Anæmia	4	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	5
No. 5. <i>Chronic Poisoning.</i>																					
Alcoholism (Chronic)	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2
No. 6. <i>Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs.</i>																					
Neuritis	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Paralysis	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Meningitis	2	..	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	4
Convulsions	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Epilepsy	1	..	-	..	-	..	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	3
Cerebral Degeneration	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	1
Disseminated Sclerosis	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2
Apoplexy	18	..	3	..	3	..	2	..	4	..	2	..	1	..	-	..	5	..	1	..	39
Myelitis	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	1
No. 7. <i>Diseases of the Circulatory System.</i>																					
Aneurysm	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2
Angina Pectoris	4	..	-	..	1	..	2	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	9
Embolism	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Hyperpiesis	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Gangrene	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Arterio Sclerosis	12	..	-	..	1	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	1	..	16
Heart Disease	35	..	13	..	13	..	6	..	3	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	5	..	4	..	84
No. 8. <i>Diseases of the Respiratory System.</i>																					
Pleurisy	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	3
Asthma	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	2
Acute Bronchitis	1	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2
Chronic Bronchitis	5	..	-	..	4	..	1	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	1	..	3	..	-	..	15
Pneumonia	8	..	3	..	1	..	2	..	-	..	2	..	-	..	5	..	-	..	-	..	21
Broncho-Pneumonia	10	..	1	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	1	..	14
Oedema of lung	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
No. 9. <i>Diseases of the Digestive System.</i>																					
Appendicitis	1	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	3
Intestinal Obstruction	2	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	3
Volvulus	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1
Quinsy	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	..	-	..	1	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2	..	-	..	6
Gastro-Enteritis	-	..	2	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	4
Enteritis	-	..	2	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	3
Colitis	1	..	-	..	-	..	1	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	-	..	2
Carried forward	180	..	45	..	40	..	28	..	11	..	13	..	7	..	12	..	33	..	13	..	382

Brought forward	180	..45	..40	..28	..11	..13	..7	..12	..33	..13	..	382
No. 10. <i>Non-Venereal Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System. and Annexa.</i>												
Chronic Nephritis	3	..4	..2	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..2	..1	..	13
Acute Nephritis	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
Cystitis	4	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	5
Pyelitis	-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	1	-	..	1
Renal Calculus	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
No. 11. <i>Diseases of Pregnancy.</i>												
Eclampsia	1	..-	..-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	2
No. 12. <i>Diseases of the Skin.</i>												
Carbuncle	-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..1	..-	..	1
No. 14. <i>Congenital Malformation.</i>												
Malformation of Heart	-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..1	..-	..	1
Malformation of Colon	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
No. 15. <i>Diseases of Early Infancy.</i>												
Premature Birth	4	..1	..-	..2	..-	..-	..-	..1	..2	..-	..	10
Injury at Birth	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
Atelectasis	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
Marasmus	5	..1	..-	..1	..2	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	9
Icterus Neonatorum	1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	1
No. 16. <i>Old Age.</i>												
Senile Decay	28	..7	..8	..9	..2	..4	..1	..3	..7	..-	..	69
Senile Dementia	1	..-	..-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	2
No. 17. <i>Deaths from Violence.</i>												
Drowning	1	..1	..-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..1	..-	..-	..	4
Burns	-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..1	..-	..-	..1	..-	..	3
Fall	2	..-	..-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..1	..	4
Suicide	3	..-	..1	..-	..-	..1	..-	..1	..-	..-	..	6
Motor Accident	2	..-	..1	..2	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..-	..	5
No. 11. <i>Ill-Defined Diseases.</i>												
Syncope	2	..-	..1	..-	..-	..-	..-	..1	..1	..-	..	5
Total	242	..61	..53	..45	..17	..19	..8	..18	..50	..15	..	528

Lukis House, Grange, Guernsey, July 9th, 1935.

SIR,

I beg to forward you my annual report for the year 1934.

INSPECTIONS.

Total number of inspections	234
Inspections to dwelling houses reported as insanitary	180
Inspections in connection with infectious diseases	55
Inspections in response to requests for advice	19
Inspections in connection with complaints	48
Inspections of dairies	9
„ workshops and workrooms	9
„ stables	4
„ bakehouses	32
„ public houses	46
„ ice cream vendors	6

WATER SUPPLY.

Samples taken for chemical analysis	19
Waters found to contain lead	6
Lead fittings removed from wells	7
Wells cleansed	2
Company's water provided	11
Rain water cisterns repaired	2
Rain water pumps repaired	2
Wells closed	3

SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED AND WORK CARRIED OUT.

Open pits converted to sealed pits	15
New cesspools constructed	6
New privies	5
Obsolete closets replaced by wash-down closets	10
New water closets built	15
Interceptors inserted	7
Drains tested	15
Vent pipes provided or renewed	5
Fresh air inlets provided	3
New windows to existing water closets	6
New urinals	2
Rain water pipes renewed	2
General repairs to houses	5
Houses closed (by Constables' orders)	2

MILK SAMPLES.

Twenty-eight samples were taken during the year, of which two were really outstanding, the analysis shewing 8 per cent. fat, and 9 per cent. solids not fat, and 7.50 per cent. fat and 9.05 per cent. solids not fat, respectively. Both were samples of morning's milk, taken from a herd.

Eighteen samples gave between 4.0 per cent. and 6.85 per cent. fat.

Seven samples „ „ 3.0 per cent. and 3.98 per cent. fat.

The remaining one gave slightly over 2.0 per cent. fat. The vendor, in this case a farmer, was brought before the Court, but was discharged, the Magistrate observing that as there was no recognised standard for Guernsey milk, there could be no conviction. Two samples were deficient in non-fatty solids, the freezing point test suggesting 16 per cent. added water in one case, and 20 per cent. in the other. The farmer was traced and warned, and a subsequent sample proved to be satisfactory.

The averages for the twenty-seven samples were : Fat 4.83 per cent.; Solids not fat 8.93 per cent.

CREAM.

Four samples of tinned cream were taken and found to be of average quality.

FOOD.

288 lbs. of canned ham (foreign), 6 lbs. of jellied veal (foreign) and 5 tons of potatoes (Scotch) were condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

DISINFECTION.

Fifty-five rooms were disinfected in connection with tubercular diseases and thirty-five for other infectious diseases. A considerable quantity of bedding was disinfected for the Lady Ozanne Maternity Home and the Castel Hospital.

Over three thousand articles were disinfected by steam without injury at the King Edward Sanatorium; one house alone yielded 244 articles.

I am greatly indebted to Nurses Williamson and Taylor, of the Vale and St. Sampson's District Nursing Association, for their help in a most difficult case at Les Capelles.

Also to the Constables of the various parishes for their co-operation during the year.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE AUSTIN,

States' Sanitary Inspector.

The Medical Officer of Health,
Guernsey.

